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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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A. Procurement of Military Supplies

1. Source had no knowledge of high-level Soviet Army supply organizations and very little knowledge of border guard supply organizations at the higher levels. See Sections B and C of this report for information on the latter.

B. Rear Services and Supply Procedures

2. To source, the word "rear" meant any area situated away from the border. He knew that there were border guard supply troops (intendantskiye voyska) within the border guard organization, had seen border guard supply officers and EM in Lenkoran' (N 38-45, E 48-50), but he did not remember any special supply insignia. He believed that these troops could be reassigned to border guard line duty.¹

C. Evacuation and Medical CareFirst Aid Training

3. During source's entire service with the Soviet border guard troops, he received only one hour of first aid training. This training was conducted in Lenkoran' by a lieutenant, the CO of source's training zastava, while source was undergoing basic training.² This lecture covered only the making and applying of a simple bandage.

Physical Examinations

4. When source reported for the first time to the Michurinsk (N 52-54, E 40-30) voyenkomat he went before a medical commission composed of from three to four doctors, one nurse, and one secretary. This commission conducted the physical examinations in a lecture hall or club near the voyenkomat. Together with from

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30 to 40 others summoned before the voyenkomat, source was ordered to undress. One doctor checked his heart, blood pressure, chest, stomach, nerves, reflexes, and feet. Another doctor checked source's eyes - a complete check which included one for color blindness - ears, throat, and teeth. A third doctor made chest X-rays in a separate room. All of the men examined were questioned on their medical histories. The nurse took the measurements and weights of the men and the secretary recorded the examination results. All examining personnel wore civilian clothes; therefore, source did not know whether they were civilian or military.

5. [redacted] at the time of source's induction, he was given the same medical examination including a second chest X-ray. Source underwent a third complete medical examination at the regional voyenkomat in Tambov (N 44-31, E 41-46). This examination was identical with the first two and also included a chest X-ray.
6. The fourth complete medical examination was given to source in Lenkoran' at the 44th Border Guard Otryad dispensary after his arrival from Tambov. He was not sure whether medical officers examined him because the examining doctors wore uniforms; source did not remember if they wore metallic insignia.
7. [redacted] the period of source's entire service with the border guard troops, he was only examined once and then very superficially. In January or February 1953, a border guard medical officer came down to source's zastava to examine the personnel. However, the medical officer only listened to source's heart and asked him how he felt.

Medical Supplies, Treatment, and Equipment

8. During source's military service, source never required or received any medical treatment. At zastava level, there were only bandages, iodine, and a black ichthyol ointment available as medical supplies; the zastava had no first aid man. All zastava personnel received medical care at komendatura headquarters where a doctor, a senior lieutenant, and his assistant, a sergeant, were on duty. At otryad level in Lenkoran', the medical personnel of the 44th Border Guard Otryad included one border guard medical major (known as the chief doctor of the dispensary), four to five other medical officers who were lieutenants or senior lieutenants, one female border guard lieutenant (a feldsher), and a male nurse soldier.³ Source did not know the names or precise duties of these personnel but remembered the name of the CO of the 44th Otryad Veterinary Section, Lt. Col. TOVASYAN (fnu), an Armenian.
9. Source witnessed the evacuation of only one sick soldier. The soldier walked with an escort from the 11th to the 12th Zastava and, from there, was evacuated by automobile.

Water Supply

10. Source's zastava always used locally-available spring water. Water issues were limited only during source's basic training in Lenkoran'. There, he was allowed one canteen a day while in the field. While assigned to the otryad training group at Lenkoran', source saw quinine tablets issued in the mess hall but many soldiers just threw them under the table. Source remembered with amusement that these tablets left yellow stains on trousers and littered the floor under the mess hall tables. He did not remember why these quinine tablets were issued because there had been no malaria cases among Soviet soldiers or border guard troops. A type of "bitter water" was issued from three to five times a month in Lenkoran which the men were compelled to drink, but neither salt water nor salt tablets were ever issued.

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D. Soviet Army Supply

11. Source had no knowledge of Soviet Army supply.

E. Unit Supply and Maintenance

Procurement and Supplies ⁴

12. The terrain and the weather made the delivery of supplies to border guard units a problem in this area. Source's immediate parent unit, the 11th Zastava of the 2d Border Guard Komendatura, received all of its supplies, including food, clothing, weapons, and ammunition, from the headquarters of the 2d Komendatura. All supplies were normally brought in by horse-drawn carts during the milder seasons. During the winter, the only item of supply received was an occasional issue of meat which had to be brought in by pack horses.
13. The 2d Komendatura also had its own supply problems. Its supplies came from its parent unit, the 44th Border Guard Otryad at Lenkoran'. Supplies came in 2½ or 3-ton trucks as far as one of the komendatura's own subordinate units, the 9th Zastava, located on a road at a point 10 km away. Deep mud also made this road impassable in winter, thus, most supplies came only during the summer.⁵ After the supplies arrived at the 9th Zastava, they had to be unloaded and re-shipped to the 2d Komendatura by horse-drawn carts or pack horses regardless of the season.
14. Supplies moving from the 44th Border Guard Otryad to the other three komendatury went by truck all the way. (See page 9).
15. As described above, source's zastava received its supplies by means of two four-wheeled carts, one which was drawn by two horses and the other drawn by one horse; these carts and horses belonged to the zastava. The komendatura had its own organic transport which consisted of five to six two-horse, four-wheeled carts somewhat larger than those belonging to the zastava. By means of these carts, the komendatura picked up the supplies sent by the 44th Border Guard Otryad at a point located in the 9th Zastava area (see preceding paragraphs). This transportation was only for materiel and was not used for transporting personnel. Soldiers normally walked although, occasionally, during the winter, the soldiers assigned to care for the horses rode them.

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16. The only liquid fuel used by source's zastava was kerosene. This was received in two or three ordinary iron drums with a capacity of 150 to 200 lit. This kerosene was used for lighting because the zastava had no electricity. The drums were brought in on carts and left in the open. At komendatura headquarters, similar kerosene drums were also used and left in the open air. The komendatura headquarters had a generator but it was only operated until 2300 hours; therefore, kerosene lamps had to be used.

Repair and Maintenance

17. Source never received any driver or vehicle maintenance training. His zastava had no workshop or tools. Once or twice a month, a sergeant-armorer (ruzheynyy master) from the komendatura came to the zastava to check the weapons and make the necessary repairs. He also visited the other five zastavy of his komendatura for the same purpose. The komendatura also had a shoemaker who came to the zastava to make shoe repairs once or twice a month. The komendatura tailor came to the zastava very seldom. When he did, he took clothing in need of repair back to the komendatura where he had a sewing machine.

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18. Wood was the only heating fuel used at the zastava and the komendatura. It was cut by locally-hired civilian workers. Border guard EM did not cut wood but transported it to the zastava area.

F. Supply and Maintenance of Individual Equipment

Clothing and Equipment Issue

19. Source received the following items of basic issue when he arrived at Lenkoran' for basic training at the 44th Border Guard Otryad:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1 pr	boots (kerzovye)	rubber soles, leather bot- tom, canvas tops	black	Replaced every eight months.
2 pr	footwraps (portyanki)	broadcloth	white	Washed by soldiers; an expendable item.
2 sets	underwear, summer	cotton	white	Exchanged for a clean set at the time of weekly bath.
1 pr	trousers, subtropical	cotton	gray- green	Reinforced at the knees.7
1	blouse, subtropical	cotton	gray- green	7
1	hat, Panama	cotton	gray- green	
1	pack, infantry	canvas	dark green	
1	belt, trouser	canvas	green	
1	belt, tunic	canvas	green	Wide.
1 pr	shoulder boards		green	With red piping.
	towels, face		white	Washed once a week.
1	rifle			Without ammunition.

20. Of the above items, only the boots, footwraps, and pack were new; all other items had been used. When source left Lenkoran', he returned the hat, trousers, and tunic and received the following items in exchange and to amplify his issue:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	blouse, subtropical	cotton	gray- green	new
1 pr	trousers, subtropical	cotton	gray- green	new
1	tunic, pullover	cotton	green	
1 pr	trousers, jodhpur (golife)	cotton	light green	

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	overcoat (shinel)	wool	gray	
1	short coat (bushlat)	cotton and quilted	light green	Double-breasted with green button loops; rounded by red piping.
1 pr	shoulder boards			To be worn with the short coat or overcoat.
1	winter cap	quilted	gray	Fur-trimmed above the forehead, along cheek flaps, and behind neck; with ear-flaps.
1 pr	gloves	canvas and cotton	yellow 50X1	

21. On arrival at the komendatura [redacted] source turned in his overcoat and blouse to the supply room as well as his towels; he could have his overcoat and blouse back upon request. In exchange, he received two new towels, one pair of winter footwraps, white and heavier than his earlier ones, and one carbine. When he left the komendatura [redacted] he took along his short 50X1 coat but left the overcoat in the supply room because he could not foresee any need for it. At the zastava, source received two hand-grenades, one cot, sheets, a mattress, and the following items:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	raincoat	canvas	dark green	This was a used item.
1 pr	winter boots (valenki)	wool	gray	This was a used item.
1 pr	quilted trousers	cotton and quilt	black or blue	This was a used item.
1	fur coat, long	wool and leather	white	With a high collar.
1 set	underwear, winter heavy	thick broad- cloth	white	Long underwear
1 set	underwear, winter light	cotton	white	Long underwear.

22. The first sergeant inspected the equipment of EM only once in a great while when he felt like it. There were no formal inspections.

23. Source never heard of any clothing allowances for officers or EM. NCOs, PFCs, and privates received the same equipment except for weapons. He knew of no cases of lost or worn-out items or of clothing salvage but knew that no item was normally replaced prior to the expiration of the prescribed wear-out period.

Replacement and Repair

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24. While source was at the zastava, [redacted] none of the above clothing items was replaced.

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However, the subtropical clothing was normally replaced every two years while the blouse and overcoat had to last the entire three-year period of enlistment. Jodhpur pants and pullover blouses were replaced every six months. Underwear was exchanged every seven to ten days when the troops took their periodic bath.

25. Laundry marks and other clothing identification were placed on all equipment. These marks indicated the year of manufacture of the clothing and the numerical designation of the unit; however, these laundry marks disappeared under constant laundering.

Units of Fire

26. Source had no knowledge of units of fire but stated that whenever border guard troops went on patrol, the troops sometimes picked up their own ammunition belts and, occasionally, took those of other men. Source's CO never checked the patrols to determine if they took along the required number of rounds.

Rations

27. The daily ration, which varied only slightly over the seasons, generally consisted of the following items:

Breakfast:	Hot cereal (such as rice or groats) or mashed potatoes, a cup of tea with sugar, and 200 g of bread.
Dinner:	Borshch or soup, 50 to 75 g of meat, potatoes or peas, and 300 g of bread.
Supper:	Hot cereal or potatoes, salt herring (only with potatoes), 200 g of bread, and a cup of tea with sugar.

28. On Sundays, source received the equivalent of an additional day's meat ration but this was at the expense of his Monday's meat ration. He could only remember one of these special rations and that was given out on 7 November 1952, the day of the October Revolution. This ration consisted of some stewed fruit and an additional cookie.

29. Both the komendatura and the zastava were entitled to an increased mountain ration (gornyy payok) in addition to the ration described above. This was because they were both located in a mountainous area. This supplementary ration consisted of 25 g of sugar, 10 g of fat in the hot cereal, one kilogram of bread, some tea, about 50 g of meat, and some condensed milk.

Military Stores

30. Source knew of only two military stores, one in Lenkoran' and one at the komendatura; all items were of Soviet manufacture. The store in Lenkoran' was fairly large and sold caps, food products, fountain pens, clocks for about 35 rubles each, and ordinary pens. It did not sell watches, radios, phonographs, or records. The outlet at the komendatura was only a small stall. All items sold there had to be brought from the 44th Border Guard Otryad in Lenkoran' and prices were, therefore, about 10 percent higher. This stall sold cookies (19 rubles per kg), toothpaste (2.60 rubles a tube), fountain pens (25 rubles), stationery (0.60 to 1.20 rubles), pencils (0.13 rubles), cigarettes (1.25 to 2.90 rubles a pack), and penholders with a pen (0.65 rubles).

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Finance

31. The following information on pay was applicable to source's zastava; he obtained this information from fellow border guards. Privates and PFCs received 30 rubles a month but 10 to 15 rubles of this amount was deducted for government loans. Corporals and sergeants received 75 rubles a month during their first year of service and had 25 rubles deducted each month for government loans. After two years, they received 150 rubles a month but source did not know how much of this was deducted for government loans. The CO of the zastava, a first lieutenant, received 1,240 rubles a month but source did not know the government-loan deduction from this salary.⁸
32. Source was certain that a junior lieutenant in the line did not receive more than 850 to 950 rubles a month. His sergeant, who was an acting zastava first sergeant, received 300 rubles a month and had 30 rubles deducted for government loans. Finally, source knew of one sergeant at komendatura headquarters, anfeldsher, who received from 500 to 600 rubles a month. Source heard that naval personnel and occupation personnel received higher pay than corresponding grades in other arms and in other areas respectively.
33. Border guard personnel were normally paid near the end of each month - on or about the 28th; however, payday in source's zastava was usually delayed and its personnel received their pay between the fifth and the ninth of the following month. Source had heard older soldiers say that they had been paid two months late in some instances. Zastava personnel was paid by the first sergeant who went to the komendatura for the payroll. There was no paying ceremony; the first sergeant paid the troops anywhere he happened to be. Those on detail, for example, were paid whenever the first sergeant could contact them. The same was true of soldiers on patrol. Each soldier simply signed the pay book and received his money.

G. General

34. Source could offer no detailed comments on the weak or strong points of the Soviet Army supply system but, when pressed for an opinion, he stated that it was "poor".

H. Soviet Army Transportation

35. When questioned on the subjects of military transport organization, rail movements, motor transport, stockpiling, and advance warning measures, source was only able to give the following. He was under the impression that the Soviet Army utilized motor transport to a very great extent; this was based on a brief personal observation of infantry and artillery troops in Lenkoran where he saw no army horse-drawn vehicles or cavalry. He never saw military convoys of more than three or four trucks and these were usually ZIS-105 and ZIS-150 types. Source believed that the distance between trucks was usually about 20 m.

1. [] for the location of border guard supply installations in Lenkoran'.

2. [] Comment: The zastava is the lowest unit of the border guard line organization. It may be compared to a unit of between platoon and company size.

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- 50X1 3. [] Comment: A feldsher is a Soviet Army or border guard medical assistant who does not have an M.D. degree or the Soviet equivalent but, normally, one who has had some medical school training.
- 50X1 4. [] Comment: See page 9 for source's memory sketch of the supply routes of the 44th Border Guard Otryad. This sketch includes the approximate distances between selected units, the means of transport used over certain routes, elevations, and the approximate duration of some trips.
- 50X1 5. [] Comment: Snowfall did not normally exceed 25 cm in depth. Source's zastava had skis but they could not be used because of the terrain. The temperature during the winter went to 11 degrees F.
- 50X1 6. [] Section B. for a description of this fence.
- 50X1 7. [] Comment: The cotton trousers and blouse were worn from April to October. The blouse was buttoned all the way down the front; the material was not very light weight. Source claimed that the main difference between the subtropical uniform and the other was that the former was made of stronger material and allowed a greater freedom of movement.
- 50X1 8. [] Comment: In this connection, it must be remembered that deductions for government loans were made only 10 months out of the year.

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Some Sample Runs Known to Source (continued):

2d Komendatura - 9th Zastava (on foot) - 10th Zastava (by car) - 11th Zastava (on foot). Equalled nine hours.

2d Komendatura - 11th Zastava (by horse-drawn cart). Equalled from 10 to 12 hours.

11th Zastava - 2d Komendatura (by horse-drawn cart). Equalled from 12 to 14 hours.

2d Komendatura - 9th Zastava (on foot). Equalled three hours (uphill).

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